

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Held in Assington Village Hall on Monday 30th November 2020

Present: Councillors Simon Thorogood (Chair), Andrew Hill (Vice Chairman), Rose Symonds, John Symons, Helen Wallace, Ian Jordan and Bronwen Stacey

Attending: Jane Hatton (Clerk), County Councillor James Finch, Babergh District Councillor Lee Parker and two members of the public joined before item 9.

20/113 Apologies for Absence

No apologies received.

20/114 Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

No declaration of Interest or requests for dispensation had been received.

20/115 Minutes of Meeting held on 28th September

The minutes of the meeting were approved and will be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

20/116 Public Forum

County Councillor James Finch expressed his disappointment that Suffolk is in Tier 2 rather than Tier 1 as the rates are only a fraction above Cornwall but there are issues with hot spots in Hadleigh and Ipswich. He expressed the need for everyone to follow the current Covid advice.

Babergh District Councillor Lee Parker advised that the majority of resources are going into Covid and arranging grants to support businesses. Councillors asked for confirmation that CIL monies can be spent on traffic calming measures which have been identified and BDCllr Parker confirmed that he could confirm this.

The public meeting was closed.

20/117 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Wallace informed Councillors that the NP had been submitted to the independent examiner since 16 November. Cllr Wallace had forwarded the councillors emails received regarding the process and with the response on behalf of the PC to the examiners initial questions concerning the implications of the Reg 19 Joint Local Plan on the submission of our NP. The examiner has indicated that she hopes to do a site visit once lockdown is over and if everything is straightforward hopes to have the final report ready before Christmas. The NP website has been updated, guiding people to Baberghs website for those who want more information about the process and progress.

20/118 Routine Correspondence

- a. Councillors agreed to discuss the Nursery application under item 9b.
- b. The clerk advised that she had informed the house owner of the link on the BDC website for households wishing to change the name of their house.
- c. Councillors agreed that the Street Lighting times will remain the same over the Christmas and New Year period.

20/119 Clerk's Report (Appendix A)

Councillors noted the clerk's report:

- a. Councillors noted the broadband email update which had been received since the issue of the agenda.
- b. BDCllr Parker advised that there was no planning permission relating to Assington Autos and therefore the only option is to see if they are complying with the Environmental Agency plan.
- c. BDCllr Parker advised that there are no restrictions on filling in garden ponds and will contact Cllr Stacey to discuss this further.

20/120 Finance

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- a. Councillors reviewed the Certificate of Exemption and resolved to accept this.
- b. All cheques signed and due for signing as itemised in appendix C, were authorised by the councillors. The councillors noted the income received since the last meeting and reconciliation of bank accounts against the bank statements, and the Statement of Accounts against the Budget.
- c. The councillors reviewed the budget proposal in appendix D and agreed the budget for 2021/22.

20/121 Planning

a. Consider **Planning Application - DC/20/05299 - Application for Discharge** of planning obligation to erect a cattle shelter and barn at Land North of Moors Farm, Assington resolved to **object** to the application. The condition was applied to ensure that the cattle shelter could not be developed into a residence and the removal would therefore enable the applicant to either pursue development of the site or pursue permission for gravel extraction which had previously been submitted and refused.

BDCllr Parker left the meeting at this time

b. Status of **Planning Applications:**

Date Received	BDC Ref	Application	APC Ref	APC Response	BDC Response
31/03/20	DC/20/01307	Change of use and conversion of barn into 1 dwelling at Shamrock Farm, Marshalls Farm, Assington	20/033	Objected	Granted
31/03/20	DC/20/01308	Works to facilitate conversion of barn into 1 dwelling at Shamrock Farm, Marshalls Farm, Assington	20/033	Objected	Granted
30/06/20	APP/D3505/W/20/3249865	Change of use of existing restaurant and outbuilding to provide 5 dwellings at The Case Restaurant, Further Street, Assington	20/065	Objected	
11/08/20	DC/20/03362	Erection of Nursery School with ancillary parking and constructions of vehicular access to The Street at Land south of Access Road from C733 to the Church, Assington	20/094a	Objected	
14/09/20	DC/20/03353	Change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden land to the rear of School Lodge and L'Ecole, The Street, Assington	20/106a	Supported	Granted

All Councillors agreed that they consider the BDC decision to grant permission relating to DC/20/03362 to be questionable given the applications' undisputed conflict with the development plan. Councillors agreed to proceed with a letter of action offering BDC the opportunity to review their decision, but also to make clear that if they decided not to do so that the Council would seek permission for a judicial review. Proposed Cllr Thorogood, seconded Cllr Jordan. It was agreed that the parish council would like to engage with the business with a view to ensuring that the nursery finds a sustainable location to continue to operate. Cllr Hill suggested that a subgroup be set up to progress the future actions and this was agreed, while all Parish Councillors will monitor and review at each stage.

Two members of the public left at this time.

20/122 Traffic Speed Reduction Plan

Cllr Hill explained the three strands of the speed reduction plan: 1. The Community Speed Watch Group, which has been delayed due to the lockdown but a team of nine has been approved by the Police and is expected to be active in the New Year, 2. The Quiet Lanes Initiative, which Cllr Hill agreed to continue to keep Councillors updated on, and 3. The proposed 20mph limit in part of The Street. In addition, Cllr Hill had received correspondence from a resident regarding Marshalls Green and the large lorries which use the lane and the inconsistency of it being 60mph. The lane is between

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the A134 which is 40mph and the village 30mph. It was suggested that it could be included in the Quiet Lanes Initiative and to investigate laybys and a permissive footpath. Cllr Finch advised that there is no enforcement of Quiet Lanes, they simply involve signs at either end to warn vehicles of the likely presence of more vulnerable road users. Councillors expressed their strong desire to progress the 20mph limit measures at the earliest opportunity, given the overwhelming support in the Neighbourhood Plan, the successful compliance with Suffolk County Council policies on the matter and the funding available through CIL.

20/123 Flooding Issues

Cllr Hill had received correspondence from a resident regarding the flooding issues in The Street and Cllr Finch confirmed that he was looking into the issue and that the property will be visited again by a representative of SCC highways.

Cllr Jordan and Cllr Finch left at this time

20/124 Licensed Paths, Footpaths and APC's Assets

Councillors Symonds and Wallace had walked the parish and reported back that the street light outside 3 The Gurdons was covered by ivy and the dog bin at the entrance of The Thicks is regularly full and a larger dog bin needs to be installed. Paul Hollingsworth, the footpath warden, had enquired as to which paths were cut by the Contractor. It was agreed to copy him in when the new seasons contract is agreed with the Contractor. Cllr Symonds agreed to contact Mr Hollingsworth and invite him to attend the next meeting or to send in his report. Cllr Thorogood had been contacted by Assington Allotment Association regarding the continued support of the council in paying for the water and cutting of the footpaths and it was agreed that this support would continue.

20/125 Meeting Dates for 2020

The councillors agreed the following meeting dates:

2021	Assington PC Meetings
January	25th
March	22nd Meeting and APM
May	24th Annual Meeting
July	26th
September	27th
November	29th

20/126 Question to the Chair

Councillors agreed to purchase a Christmas Tree for the village up to the sum of £100 for outside the Village Hall.

20/127 Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting date is Monday 25th January 2021 starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

Appendix A Clerk's Report

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Minute	Action	Status	Done
	Minutes placed on website / sent to parish magazine / Lee and James		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Planning Comments sent to BDC		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Cheques sent to suppliers.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20/021	b Clerk to contact Paul Gant SCC Highways as a response had not been received following the meeting with Cllrs on the 3rd December	Awaiting response from Paul Gant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20/072	BDC Parker to look into the planning permission at Assington Autos regarding the sites operating hours and the road sign		<input type="checkbox"/>
20/066	BDC Parker to look into if there are any restrictions on filling up garden ponds		<input type="checkbox"/>
20/102	b Clerk to liaise with Cllr Symonds regarding Broadband	Awaiting response from Suffolk Broadband	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20/102	c Clerk to confirm the councils interest in trees to plant in the village supplied by BDC		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20/107	Cllrs Symonds and Wallace to walk the parish		<input type="checkbox"/>
20/109	Clerk to write to resident to confirm support of their application for the Definitive Map		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Clerks Hours		
	1st April 2020 to 31st Oct 2020: 156hrs worked/150 hrs pd		
	Calendar Reminder		
	Shoulder of Mutton AVC renewal due 19th August 2024		

Appendix B RFO Report

Receipts and Payments

Receipts and Payments

12/10/20	BDC CIL Payment	7			18,076.37	y	
13/10/20	SCC P3 Scheme	8		LA 2011 ss 1 to 8	321.40	y	
30/11/20	BDC - Litter & Dog Bin emptying	PO19	891	LA 2011 ss 1 to 8			390.58
30/11/20	Garden Arb Business - Footpaths	PO20	892	LA 2011 ss 1 to 8			495.00
30/11/20	Garden Arb Business - Footpaths	PO20	892	LA 2011 ss 1 to 8			135.00
30/11/20	J Hatton - Salary	PO21	893	LA 2011 ss 1 to 8			552.30
31/12/20	J Hatton - WFHA - July to Dec	PO21	893	LA 2011 ss 1 to 8			78.00
31/12/20	J Hatton - Expenses	PO22	893	LA 2011 ss 1 to 8			54.35
31/12/20	HMRC	PO21	894	LA 2011 ss 1 to 8			138.00

Bank Reconciliation

	Statement Date	Statement Balance	Actual Balance	Unpresented Cheques	Credits not shown	Difference
Community Premium Accounts	30/10/20	£100.00	£70,637.83	£1,843.23	£0.00	£0.00
Cash		£0.00	£0.00			£0.00
		£72,481.06	£70,637.83	£1,843.23	£0.00	

Statement of Accounts vs Budget

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	Budget	Actual		Reserves	Budget	Actual
Assets		£38,996.28				
B/Forward						
Income			Expenditure			
Precept	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	Staff Costs	£2,880.00	£1,909.00	
Grants	£331.20	£5,395.40	Admin	£1,550.00	£332.45	
Bank Interest	£5.00	£13.51	Donations	£600.00	£700.00	
Loan	£0.00	£0.00	Street Lighting	£350.00	£0.00	
Other	£360.00	£240.00	CIL	£0.00	£423.00	
CIL	£0.00	£27,216.03	Insurance	£350.00	£329.28	
VAT Repayment	£0.00	£1,426.41	Inspection	£350.00	£0.00	
			P3 Scheme	£360.00	£0.00	
			Licensed Footpaths	£175.00	£396.00	
			Contingency	£500.00	£171.00	
			Maintenance	£630.00	£325.48	
			Loan Repayment	£0.00	£0.00	
			Loan Interest	£0.00	£0.00	
			Allotments / Conservation	£655.00	£113.00	
			Neighbourhood Plan	£1,500.00	£6,266.48	
			VAT Paid	£0.00	£823.80	
Total	£10,696.20	£44,291.35	Total	£0.00	£9,900.00	£11,789.49
			Assets C/Forward			£70,637.83
Total		£83,287.63	Total			£82,427.32

End of Appendices

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